
ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY

ACRONYMS

ACEC	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978
AMS	Analysis of the Management Situation
ANC	Acid Neutralizing Capacity
APD	Application for Permit to Drill
AQRV	Air Quality Related Values
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BCC	Birds of Conservation Concern
bhp/hr	Brake Horsepower-hour
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
CAA	Clean Air Act
CASTNet	Clean Air Status and Trends Network
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CH ₄	Methane
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
CSU	Controlled Surface Use
DAT	Deposition Analysis Thresholds
DOI	Department of the Interior
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERMA	Extensive Recreation Management Area
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAR	Functioning at Risk
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
gpm	Gallons per Minute
H ₂ S	Hydrogen Sulfide
HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutants
HNO ₃	Nitric Acid
IM	Instruction Memorandum
IMP	Interim Management Policy
IMPROVE	Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KPLA	Known Potash Leasing Area
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MLP	Master Leasing Plan
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSO	Mexican Spotted Owl

N ₂ O	Nitrous Oxide
NADP	National Atmospheric Deposition Program
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990
NAS	National Academy of Sciences
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
NF	Non-Functioning
NH ₄ ⁺⁺	Ammonium
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO ₃	Nitrate
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
NO _x	Mono-nitrogen Oxides
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSO	No Surface Occupancy
NTNC	Non-Transient Non-Community Water System
NWSRS	National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
O ₃	Ozone
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle
ORV	Outstandingly Remarkable Value
OSNHT	Old Spanish National Historic Trail
Pb	Lead
PDSI	Palmer Drought Severity Index
PFC	Proper Functioning Condition
PFYC	Potential Fossil Yield Classification
PIF	Partners in Flight Species of Concern
PLA	Potash Leasing Area
PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5}	Particulate Matter
PPA	Prospecting Permit Applications
PPFA	Potash Processing Facility Area
ppb	Parts per Billion
ppm	Parts per Million
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
PWR	Public Water Reserves
RAMP	Recreation Area Management Plans
REL	Relative Exposure Levels
RfC	Reference Concentrations
RFD	Reasonably Foreseeable Development
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RMZ	Recreation Management Zones
ROW	Right-of-Way
SAR	Sodium Adsorption Ratio
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SITLA	Utah School and Institutional Trust Land Administration
SMA	Surface Management Agency
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
SO ₄	Sulfate
SPC	State Wildlife Species of Concern
SRMA	Special Recreation Management Areas
SRP	Special Recreation Permit

SS	Sensitive Species
SSS	Special Status Species
SWReGAP	Southwest Regional Gap Analysis Project
T&R	Township and Range
TCP	Traditional Cultural Properties
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TL	Timing Limitations
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load study
TNC	Transient Non-Community Water System
tpy	Tons per Year
TSL	Toxic Screening Levels
UDDW	Utah Division of Drinking Water
UDEQ	Utah Department of Environmental Quality
UDOGM	Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
UDOT	Utah Department of Transportation
UDWR	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
UGS	Utah Geological Survey
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Service
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
VRI	Visual Resource Inventory
VRM	Visual Resource Management
WO	(Bureau of Land Management) Washington Office
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
WSR	Wild and Scenic River
WSRA	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968
WRF	Weather Research and Forecasting Model

GLOSSARY

Activity Plan: Site-specific plan which precedes actual development. This is the most detailed level of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) planning.

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV): A wheeled or tracked vehicle, other than a snowmobile or work vehicle, designed primarily for recreational use or for the transportation of property or equipment exclusively on undeveloped road rights of way, open country, or other unprepared surfaces.

Allotment: An area of land where one or more livestock operators graze their livestock. Allotments generally consist of BLM lands but may also include other Federally-managed, State-owned, or private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and periods of use are specified for each allotment.

Animal Unit Month (AUM): A standardized measurement of the amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one cow unit or its equivalent for 1 month. Approximately 800 pounds of forage.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): Areas within the public lands where special management attention is required to: (1) protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or (2) protect life and safety from natural hazards.

Authorized Officer: The Federal employee who has the delegated authority to make a specific decision.

Avoidance Areas: Areas with sensitive resource values where rights-of-way, leases, and easements would be strongly discouraged. Authorization made in avoidance areas would have to be compatible with the purpose for which the area was designated and not is otherwise feasible on lands outside the avoidance area.

Best Management Practices (BMP): A suite of techniques that guide, or may be applied to, management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. Best management practices are often developed in conjunction with land use plans, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the land use plan specifies that they are mandatory. They may be updated or modified without a plan amendment if they are not mandatory.

Big Game: Large species of wildlife that are hunted, such as elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn antelope.

Browse: To browse (verb) is to graze; also, browse (noun) is the tender shoots, twigs, and leaves and shrubs often used as food by livestock and wildlife.

Candidate Species: Any species included in the Federal Register notice of review that are being considered for listing as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Casual Use: Mining activities that only negligibly disturb Federal lands and resources. Casual use generally includes the collecting of geochemical, rock, soil, or mineral specimens using hand tools, hand panning, and nonmotorized sluicing. It also generally includes use of metal detectors, gold spears, and other battery-operated devices for sensing the presence of minerals, and hand battery-operated dry washers. Casual use does not include use of mechanized earth-moving equipment, truck-mounted drilling equipment, suction dredges, motorized vehicles in areas designated as closed to off-road vehicles, chemicals, or

explosives. It also does not include occupancy or operations where the cumulative effects of the activities result in more than negligible disturbance.

Closed: Generally denotes that an area is not available for a particular use or uses; refer to specific definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs.

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): The official, legal tabulation or regulations directing Federal government activities.

Collaboration: A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands. This may or may not involve an agency as a cooperating agency.

Competitive Forage: Those forage species utilized by two or more animal species.

Conditions of Approval: Conditions or provisions (requirements) under which an Application for a Permit to Drill or a Sundry Notice is approved.

Conformance: That a proposed action shall be specifically provided for in the land use plan or, if not specifically mentioned, shall be clearly consistent with the goals, objectives, or standards of the approved land use plan.

Conservation Agreement: A formal, signed agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service and other parties that implements specific actions, activities, or programs designed to eliminate or reduce threats or otherwise improve the status of a species. Conservation Agreements can be developed at a State, regional, or national level and generally include multiple agencies at both the State and Federal level, as well as tribes. Depending on the types of commitments the BLM makes in a Conservation Agreement and the level of signatory authority, plan revisions or amendments may be required prior to signing the Conservation Agreement, or subsequently in order to implement the Conservation Agreement.

Conservation Strategy: A strategy outlining current activities or threats that are contributing to the decline of a species, along with the actions or strategies needed to reverse or eliminate such a decline or threats. Conservation strategies are generally developed for species of plants and animals that are designated as BLM sensitive species or that have been determined by the Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service to be Federal candidates under the Endangered Species Act.

Contiguous: Lands or legal subdivisions having a common boundary; lands having only a common corner are not contiguous.

Cooperating Agency: Assists the lead Federal agency in developing an Environmental Analysis (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) defines a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA. Any tribe of Federal, State, or local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency through an agreement with the lead agency.

Corridor: A wide strip of land within which a proposed linear facility could be located.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ): An advisory council to the President of the United States established by NEPA of 1969. It reviews Federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the president on environmental matters.

Critical Habitat: For listed species, consists of (1) the specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species, at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act, on which are found those physical or biological features (constituent elements) (a) essential to the conservation of the species and (b) which may require special management considerations or protection; and (2) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act upon a determination by the Secretary that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species. Designated critical habitats are described in 50 CFR§ 17 and 226.

Crucial Habitat: Habitat on which a species depends for survival because there are no alternative ranges or habitats available.

Crucial Winter Habitat (Range): Parts of the habitat necessary to sustain a wildlife population at critical periods of its life cycle. This is often a limiting factor on the populations, such as breeding habitat, winter habitat, etc.

Cryptobiotic (Cryptogrammic) Soils: Biological communities that form a surface layer or crust on some soils. These communities consist of cyanobacteria (blue-green bacteria), micro fungi, mosses, lichens, and green algae and perform many important functions, including fixing nitrogen and carbon, maintaining soil surface stability, and preventing erosion. Cryptobiotic crusts also influence the nutrient levels of soils and the status and germination of plants in the desert. These crusts are slow to recover after severe disturbance, requiring 40 years or more to recolonize even small areas.

Cultural Resources: Nonrenewable elements of the physical and human environment including archaeological remains (evidence of prehistoric or historic human activities) and sociocultural values traditionally held by ethnic groups (sacred places, traditionally utilized raw materials, etc.).

Cultural Site: Any location that includes prehistoric and/or historic evidence of human use or that has important sociocultural value.

Cumulative Impact: The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Current Habitat: Habitat currently occupied by a species during the development of the plan.

Desired Condition: Description of those factors that should exist within ecosystems both to maintain their survival and to meet social and economic needs.

Development Well: A well drilled within the known or proven productive area of an oil field with expectation of producing oil or gas from the producing reservoir.

Discretionary Closure: Those lands where the BLM has determined that fluid minerals leasing, even with the most restrictive stipulations, would not adequately protect other resources, values, or land uses.

Dispersed/Extensive Recreation: Recreation activities of an unstructured type, which are not confined to specific locations such as recreation sites. Example of these activities may be hunting, fishing, off-road vehicle use, hiking, and sightseeing.

Disturbance Area: Area of influence around a disturbance causing a change in animal behavior such as leaving the area, increased stress, abandoning young, not breeding, and aberrant behavior.

Drought: Drought is a protracted period of deficient precipitation resulting in extensive damage to crops, resulting in loss of yield.

Easement: A right afforded a person or agency to make limited use of another's real property for access or other purposes.

Endangered Species: A plant or animal species whose prospects for survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy, as designated by the Secretary of the Interior, and as is further defined by the Endangered Species Act.

Environmental Assessment (EA): A concise public document that analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed Federal action and provides sufficient evidence to determine the level of significance of the impacts.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A detailed written statement required by the NEPA when an agency proposes a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Erosion: The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, or other geological agents.

Exclusion Area: Areas with sensitive resource values where rights-of-way, leases, and easements would not be authorized.

Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA): An area where significant recreation opportunities and problems are limited and explicit recreation management is not required. Minimal management actions related to the BLM's stewardship responsibilities are adequate in these areas.

Fawning Habitat: An area where big game animals usually give birth during a specific time of year.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA): Public Law 94-579. October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM's "Organic Act," which provides the majority of the BLM's legislated authority, direction, policy, and basic management guidance.

Federal Register: A daily publication, which reports presidential and Federal agency documents.

Fire Management Plan: A strategic plan that defines a program to manage wild land and prescribed fires, and documents the fire management program in the approved land use plan; the plan is supplemented by operational procedures such as preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire plans, and prevention plans.

Floodplain: The relatively flat area or lowlands adjoining a body of standing or flowing water, which has been or might be covered by floodwater.

Fluid Minerals: Oil and gas resources.

Focus Area: A recreation management zone that emphasizes particular types of recreation activities.

Fossil: Mineralized or petrified form from a past geologic age, especially from previously living things.

Functioning at Risk (FAR): See Riparian-Functioning at Risk.

Geographic Information System (GIS): A computer system capable of storing, analyzing, and displaying data and describing places on the earth's surface.

Goal: A broad statement of a desired outcome. Goals are usually not quantifiable and may not have established time frames for achievement.

Grandfather (to): To exempt groups or individuals from provisions of laws or regulations because of preexisting conditions, such as exempting mining operations existing before new mining regulations are implemented from provisions of those new regulations.

Grazing System: The manipulation of livestock grazing to accomplish a desired result.

Guidelines: Actions or management practices that may be used to achieve desired outcomes, sometimes expressed as best management practices. Guidelines may be identified during the land use planning process, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the plan specifies that they are mandatory.

Habitat: A specific set of physical conditions that surround a species, group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major constituents of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

Habitat Fragmentation: The disruption (by division) of extensive habitats into smaller habitat patches. The effects of habitat fragmentation include loss of habitat area and the creation of smaller, more isolated patches of remaining habitat.

Historic Habitat: Habitat occupied by a species prior to the development of this plan.

Impact: A modification of the existing environment caused by an action. These environmental consequences are the scientific and analytical basis for comparison of alternatives. Effects may be either direct, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place, or indirect, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable, or cumulative.

Implementation Decisions: Decisions that take action to implement land use plan decisions. They are generally appealable to Interior Board of Land Appeals.

Implementation Plan: A site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. An implementation plan usually selects and applies best management practices to meet land use plan objectives. Implementation plans are synonymous with "activity" plans. Examples of implementation plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, and allotment management plans.

Indian Tribe: Any Indian group in the conterminous United States that the Secretary of the Interior recognizes as possessing tribal status.

Interdisciplinary Team: A group of individuals with different training, representing the physical sciences, social sciences, and environmental design arts, assembling to solve a problem or perform a task. The members of the team proceed to a solution with frequent interaction so that each discipline may provide

insights to any stage of the problem and disciplines may combine to provide new solutions. The number and disciplines of the members preparing the plan vary with circumstances. A member may represent one or more disciplines or BLM program interests.

Lambing Habitat: An area where bighorn sheep deliver and nurse young during a specific time of year.

Land Use Allocation: The identification in a land use plan of the activities and foreseeable development that are allowed, restricted, or excluded for all or part of the Planning Area, based on desired future conditions.

Land Use Plan: A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of FLPMA; an assimilation of land-use-plan-level decisions developed through the planning process, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed.

Land Use Plan Decision: Establishes desired outcomes and the actions needed to achieve them. Decisions are reached using the BLM planning process. When they are presented to the public as proposed decisions, they can be protested to the BLM Director. They are not appealable to Interior Board of Land Appeals.

Leasable Minerals: Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. They include coal, phosphate, sulphur, potassium, and sodium minerals, and oil, gas, and geothermal.

Lease: (1) A legal document that conveys to an operator the right to drill for oil and gas; (2) the tract of land, on which a lease has been obtained, where producing wells and production equipment are located.

Lease Notice: Provides more detailed information concerning limitations that already exist in law, lease terms, regulations, and operational orders. A Lease Notice also addresses special items the lessee would consider when planning operations, but does not impose new or additional restrictions.

Lease Stipulation: A modification of the terms and conditions on a standard lease form at the time of the lease sale.

Lek: An assembly area where birds, especially sage grouse, carry on display and courtship behavior.

Limited Roads and Trails Designation: Designated areas where the use of off-road vehicles is subject to restrictions, such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions), and limiting all use to designated roads and trails. Under the designated roads and trails designation, use would be allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for use. Combinations of restrictions are possible, such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year.

Locatable Minerals: Minerals subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. This includes deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals not subject to lease or sale.

Management Decision: A decision made by the BLM to manage public lands. Management decisions are made on both land use plan decisions and implementation decisions.

Management Opportunities: A component of the analysis of the management situation; actions or management directions that could be taken to resolve issues or management concerns.

Mechanized Travel: Travel by use of a machine, either motorized or non-motorized.

Mineral Entry: The filing of a claim on public land to obtain the right to any minerals it may contain.

Mineral Estate: The ownership of minerals, including rights necessary for access, exploration, development, mining, ore dressing, and transportation operations.

Mineral Materials: Materials such as common varieties of sand, stone, building stone, gravel, and clay that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws but that can be acquired under the Mineral Materials Act of 1947, as amended. These are also called salable minerals.

Mineral Reserves: Known mineral deposits that are recoverable under present conditions but are as of yet undeveloped.

Mineral Withdrawal: A formal order that withholds Federal lands and minerals from entry under the Mining Law of 1872 and closes the area to mineral location (staking mining claims) and development.

Minimize: To reduce the adverse impact of an operation to the lowest practical level.

Mining Claim: A parcel of land that a miner takes and holds for mining purposes, having acquired the right of possession by complying with the Mining Law of 1872, as amended, and local laws and rules. A single mining claim may contain as many adjoining locations as the locator may make or buy.

Mitigation Measures: Methods or procedures that reduce or lessen the impacts of an action.

Multiple Use: The management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the lands for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some lands for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including but not limited to, recreation, range, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the lands and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or greatest unit output.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA): An act that encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment and promotes efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; enriches the understanding or the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation, and establishes the CEQ.

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: A system of Federally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three river classifications: (1) **Recreational**-rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past, (2) **Scenic**-rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads, and (3) **Wild**-rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

Neotropical Migratory Birds: Birds that travel to Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico during the fall to spend the winter and then return to the United States and Canada during the spring to breed. These birds include almost half of the bird species that breed in the United States and Canada.

No Surface Occupancy (NSO): A fluid minerals leasing constraint that prohibits occupancy or disturbance on all or part of the lease surface to protect special values or uses. Lessees may exploit the fluid mineral resources under the leases restricted by this constraint through use of directional drilling from sites outside the area.

Non-Functioning (NF): See Riparian-Non-Functioning.

Non-mechanized Travel: Travel by foot or on an animal.

Non-Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) Lands with Wilderness Characteristics: Undeveloped Federal land that has been inventoried and/or reviewed by a BLM interdisciplinary team and determined to possess wilderness characteristics such as those listed in section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964. These lands do not possess special management designations like Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) or protective management measures such as the Interim Management Policy.

Noxious Weeds: A plant species designated by Federal or State law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or non-native, new, or not common to the United States.

Objective: A description of a desired condition for a resource. Objectives can be quantified and measured and, where possible, have established time frames for achievement.

Occupied Habitat: An area occupied by a species during the development of this plan.

Open: Generally denotes that an area is available for a particular use or uses. Refer to specific program definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV): Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) any nonamphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the Authorized Officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used in times of national defense emergencies.

One-Hundred-Year Flood: A hydrologic event with a magnitude that has a recurrence interval of 100 years.

Open Off-Highway Vehicle Areas: Designated areas where off-road vehicles may engage in cross-country travel.

Operator: Any person who has taken formal responsibility for the operations conducted on the leased lands.

Outstandingly Remarkable River Values: Values between those listed in Section 1(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act are “scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, or other similar values...” Other similar values, which may be considered, include botanical, hydrological, paleontological,

or scientific. Professional judgment is used to determine whether values exist to an outstandingly remarkable degree.

Paleontological Resources (Fossils): The physical remains of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations. Paleontological resources are important for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

Paleontology: A science dealing with the life forms of past geological periods as known from fossil remains.

Plan of Development: A mandatory plan, developed by an applicant of a mining operation or construction project that specifies the techniques and measures to be used during construction and operation of all project facilities on public land. The plan is submitted for approval to the appropriate Federal agency before any construction begins.

Plan of Operations: A plan for mining exploration and development that an operation must submit to BLM for approval when more than 5 acres a year will be disturbed or when an operator plans to work in an ACEC or a wilderness area. A Plan of Operations must document in detail all actions that the operator plans to take from exploration through reclamation.

Planning Area: A geographical area, including all land ownerships, for which BLM land use and resource management plans (RMP) are developed and maintained for the BLM-administered lands within that geographical area.

Planning Criteria: The standards, rules, and other factors developed by managers and interdisciplinary teams for their use in forming judgments about decisionmaking, analysis, and data collection during planning. Planning criteria streamline and simplify the resource management planning actions.

Potential Wild and Scenic River: A flowing body of water or estuary or a section, portion, or tributary thereof, including rivers, streams, creeks, runs, rills, and small lakes.

Prescribed Fire: The introduction of fire to an area under regulated conditions for specific management purposes.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation: Non-motorized, non-mechanized and undeveloped types of recreational activities.

Production Well: A well drilled in a known field that produces oil or gas.

Project Area: The area of land upon which an operator conducts mining operations, including the area needed for building or maintaining of roads, transmission lines, pipelines, or other means of access.

Project Plan: Detailed survey and design plan.

Properly Functioning Condition (PFC): See Riparian-Properly Functioning Condition.

Public Land: Land or interest in land owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM, except lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf, and land held for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos.

Quarry: An open or surface working, usually for the extraction of stone, slate, limestone, etc.

Range Development: A structure, excavation, treatment, or development to rehabilitate, protect, or improve lands to advance range betterment.

Rangeland: Land used for grazing by livestock and big game animals on which vegetation is dominated by grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs.

Raptor: Bird of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks such as hawks, owls, vultures, and eagles.

Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario (RFD): The prediction of the type and amount of oil, gas and other mineral activity that would occur in a given area. The prediction is based on geologic factors, past history of drilling, projected demand for oil and gas, and industry interest.

Record of Decision (ROD): A document signed by a responsible official recording a decision that was preceded by the preparing of an EIS.

Recreational River: A wild and scenic river classification that identifies those rivers or river segments that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Relict: A remnant or fragment of the vegetation of an area that remains from a former period when the vegetation was more widely distributed.

Resource Management Plan (RMP): A land use plan as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act which establishes, for a given area of land, land-use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple-use, objectives and actions to be achieved.

Right-of-Way (ROW): A ROW grant is an authorization to use a specific piece of public land for a specific project, such as roads, pipelines, transmission lines, and renewable energy and communication sites. The grant authorizes rights and privileges for a specific use of the land for a specific period of time.

Riparian Area: A form of wetland transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. Riparian areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics that reflect the influence of permanent surface or subsurface water. Typical riparian areas include lands along, adjacent to, or contiguous with perennially and intermittently flowing rivers and streams, glacial potholes, and the shores of lakes and reservoirs with stable water levels. Excluded are ephemeral streams or washes that lack vegetation and depend on free water in the soil.

Riparian-Functioning at Risk (FAR): Riparian-wetland areas are considered to be in functioning condition, but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation.

Riparian-Non-Functioning (NF): Riparian-wetland areas that are clearly not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or large wood debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows, and thus are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, etc.

Riparian-Properly Functioning Condition (PFC): Riparian/wetland areas are in PFC when adequate vegetation, landform, or woody debris is present to: dissipate high-energy water flow, filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development; improve floodwater retention and groundwater recharge; develop root masses that stabilize streambanks; develop diverse fluvial geomorphology (pool and channel complexes) to provide habitat for wildlife and support greater biodiversity.

Rock Art: Petroglyphs or pictographs.

Route: A linear line for motorized travel.

Rutting Habitat: An area where big game species engage in breeding activities during specific times of the year.

Salable Minerals: Common variety minerals on the public lands, such as sand and gravel, which are used mainly for construction and are disposed of by sales or special permits to local governments. Also referred to as mineral materials.

Scenic Byways: Highway routes, which have roadsides or corridors of special aesthetic, cultural, or historic value. An essential part of the highway is its scenic corridor. The corridor may contain outstanding scenic vistas, unusual geologic features, or other natural elements.

Scoping: The process of identifying the range of issues, management concerns, preliminary alternatives, and other components of an EIS or land-use planning document. It involves both internal and public viewpoints.

Section 7 Consultation: The requirement of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act that all Federal agencies consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service if a proposed action might affect a Federally listed species or its critical habitat.

Section 106 Compliance: The requirement of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act that any project funded, licensed, permitted, or assisted by the Federal government be reviewed for impacts to significant historic properties and that the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be allowed to comment on a project.

Sediment Yield: The amount of sediment produced in a watershed, expressed in tons, acre feet, or cubic yards, of sediment per unit of drainage area per year.

Sensitive Species: All species that are under status review, have small or declining populations, live in unique habitats, or need special management. Sensitive species include threatened, endangered, and proposed species as classified by the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Significant: An effect that is analyzed in the context of the proposed action to determine the degree or magnitude of importance of the effect, whether beneficial or adverse. The degree of significance can be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

Slope: The degree of deviation of a surface from the horizontal.

Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA): Areas, which require explicit recreation management to achieve recreation objectives and provide specific recreation opportunities.

Special Status Species: Includes proposed species, listed species, and candidate species under the Endangered Species Act; State listed species; and BLM State Director designated sensitive species (see BLM Manual 6840-Special Status Species Policy).

Stipulations: Requirements that are part of the terms of a mineral lease. Some stipulations are standard on all Federal leases. Other stipulations may be applied to the lease at the discretion of the surface management agency to protect valuable surface resources and uses.

Strategic Plan: A plan that establishes the overall direction for the BLM. This plan is guided by the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, covers a 5-year period, and is updated every 3 years. It is consistent with FLPMA and other laws affecting the public lands.

Surface Disturbance: Activities that normally result in more than negligible disturbance to public lands and that accelerate the natural erosive process. These activities normally involve use and/or occupancy of the surface, cause disturbance to soils and vegetation, and are usually caused by motorized or mechanical actions. Surface disturbance may result from activities using earth-moving and drilling equipment; geophysical exploration; off road vehicle travel; vegetation treatments; the use of pyrotechnics and explosives; and construction of facilities like power lines, pipelines, oil and gas wells, recreation sites, livestock facilities, wildlife waters, or new roads. Surface disturbance is not normally caused by casual use. Activities that are not typically surface-disturbing include, but are not limited to, proper livestock grazing, cross-country hiking, minimum impact filming and vehicle travel on designated routes.

Sustainability: The ability of an ecosystem to maintain ecological processes and functions, biological diversity, and productivity over time.

Threatened Species: Any plant or animal species defined under the Endangered Species Act as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range; listings are published in the Federal Register.

Timing Limitation Stipulation: A fluid minerals leasing constraint that prohibits surface use during specified time periods to protect identified resource values. The constraint does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities unless analysis demonstrates that such constraints are needed and that less stringent, project-specific constraints would be insufficient.

Undertaking: (16 U.S. Code [U.S.C.] Sec. 470w (7)) A project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a Federal agency; those carried out with Federal financial assistance; those requiring a Federal permit, license or approval; and those subject to State or local regulation administered pursuant to a delegation or approval by a Federal agency.

User Day: Any calendar day, or portion thereof, for each individual accompanied or serviced by an operator or permittee on the public lands of related waters; synonymous with passenger day or participant day.

Utility Corridor: A parcel of land that has been identified by law, Secretarial order, through a land use plan or by other management decision as being the preferred location for existing and future ROW grants and suitable to accommodate one type of ROW or one or more ROWs which are similar, identical or compatible.

Valid Existing Rights: Valid existing rights are legal rights to use the land that were in existence prior to implementation of the decisions in the MLP. These existing leases would be subject to the specific lease stipulations that were applied under the previous land use plan. However, the resource protection measures identified in the MLP will also apply to areas currently under lease where they do not conflict with the rights granted to the holder of the lease. The Federal Government retains certain rights when issuing an oil and gas lease or a potash lease. While the BLM may not unilaterally add a new stipulation to an existing lease that it has already issued, the BLM can subject development of existing leases to reasonable conditions, as necessary, through the application of Conditions of Approval at the time of permitting.

Vegetation Manipulation: Alteration of vegetation by using fire, plowing, or other means.

Vegetation Type: A plant community with distinguishable characteristics described by the dominant vegetation present.

Visual Resources: The visible physical features of a landscape (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that constitute the scenery of an area.

Waiver: Permanent exemption from a lease stipulation. The stipulation no longer applies anywhere within the leasehold.

Water Quality: The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

Watershed: All lands, which are enclosed by a continuous hydrologic drainage, divide and lay upslope from a specified point on a stream.

Way: A vehicle route within a wilderness study area that was in existence and identified during the FLPMA Section 603-mandated wilderness inventory. The Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review (H-8550-1) defines a way as “a trace maintained solely by the passage of vehicles which has not been improved and/or maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.” The term is also used during wilderness inventory to identify routes that are not roads. The term developed from the definition of the term “roadless” provided in the Wilderness Inventory Handbook (September 27, 1978), as follows: “roadless refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.”

Wild, Scenic or Recreational River: The three classes of what is traditionally referred to as a “Wild and Scenic River.” Designated river segments are classified as wild, scenic, and/or recreational, but the segments cannot overlap.

Wild and Scenic River Study: Rivers identified in Section 5 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for study as potential additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The rivers shall be studied under the provisions of Section 4 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Wilderness Study Area: A roadless area or island of undeveloped Federal land that has been inventoried and found to possess wilderness characteristics described under Title VI, Section 603 of FLPMA and Section 2C of the Wilderness Act of 1964. These characteristics are: (1) generally appears to have been affected mainly by the forces of nature, with human imprints substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5,000 acres or is large enough to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value.

Wilderness: A Congressionally designated area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation that is protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions as described in Section 2A of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness Characteristics: Features of the land associated with the concept of wilderness that specifically deal with naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. These characteristics may be considered in land use planning when BLM determines that those characteristics are reasonably present, of sufficient value (condition, uniqueness, relevance, importance), and need (trend, risk), and are practical to manage (from IM-2003-275, Change 1, Considerations of Wilderness Characteristics in LUP, Attachment 1). Key characteristics of wilderness listed in section 2 (c)

of the Wilderness Act of 1964 were used by BLM in conducting wilderness inventories. These characteristics are features of land associated with the concept of wilderness.

Wildfire: Any unwanted wild land fire.

Wildland Fire: Any nonstructural fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wild land.

Winter Range: The portion of the winter range to which a wildlife species is confined during periods of heaviest snow cover.

Withdrawal: An action that restricts the use of public lands by removing them from the operation of some or all of the public land or mining laws.

Woodland: A forest community occupied primarily by noncommercial species such as juniper, mountain mahogany, or quaking aspen groves; all western juniper forestlands are classified as woodlands, since juniper is classified as a noncommercial species.